

VZCZCXRO1055
PP RUEHDE
DE RUEHKU #0466 0400916
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 090916Z FEB 06
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2956
INFO RUEHZM/GULF COOPERATION COUNCIL COLLECTIVE PRIORITY

UNCLAS KUWAIT 000466

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

FOR PA RAPID RESPONSE UNIT

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: PREL KISL KPAO PGOV KU

SUBJECT: CARTOONS: KUWAIT NATIONAL ASSEMBLY CONDEMNS BUT
ALSO CALLS FOR CALM

REF: SECSTATE 20587

Kuwaiti newspapers reported February 9 on a National Assembly statement released the previous day regarding the Danish cartoons. The daily Kuwait Times reported, under the headline, "Kuwait Urges Calm in Cartoon Protests, that the Assembly praised the Muslim opposition to the cartoons, but also said, at the same time, we have to emphasize that irresponsible acts in response "disfigure that emotion and make it look like aggressiveness and destructiveness." The Kuwait News Agency (KUNA), in its story about the Assembly's statement, said that, in addition to condemning the acts and calling for legislation in Denmark and Norway to protect different religions, the Assembly statement "warned against irrationality that distorts the image of Islam."

(Note: With the Assembly closed for the weekend, we were unable to obtain the full text of the statement.)

LeBaron